

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for the removal of *Cryptosporidium* from water comprising the steps of contacting the water with *a medium consisting essentially of particulate alumina having a diameter in the range of* ~~the surface of a surface hydrated alumina (Al_2O_3)~~ *medium having a particle size in the range of about 0.5 mm to about 1.5 mm, which alumina contains a surface density of Al-OH groups occurring at an average rate of 1 hydroxyl group per 0.25 nm^2 to 1 hydroxyl group per 0.18 nm^2 surface area sufficient to render the surface of the alumina medium hydrophilic, for a time from 5 seconds to 1 hour so as to effect at least a 1 log reduction of and under conditions such that a proportion of the *Cryptosporidium* present in the water by adsorption thereof onto said *are absorbed onto said hydrated alumina medium and removed from the water in a sufficient amount to make the water fit for human use or activity.**

2-26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) A method for removing ~~protozoa~~ *Cryptosporidium* from water so as to render the water suitable for human use or for use in swimming pools or spa pools, the method comprising contacting the water with *a medium consisting of particulate alumina having a diameter in the range of about 0.5 mm to about 1.5 mm and surface Al-OH groups at an average rate of about 1 hydroxyl group per 0.25 to about 1 hydroxyl group per 0.18 nm^2 of surface area* ~~the surface of a surface hydrated alumina~~ *for a certain period of time from 5 seconds to 1 hour, so as to* ~~and under conditions such that protozoa in the water are absorbed onto the alumina so as to result in at least a 1 log reduction of the *Cryptosporidium* in the number of protozoa present in the water by adsorption thereof onto said alumina.~~ *, the surface hydrated alumina comprising a particle size of about 0.5 mm to about 1.5 mm and a surface density of Al-*

~~OH groups at an average rate of greater than about 1 hydroxyl group per 10 nm² of surface area.~~

28-29. (canceled)

30. (new) The method according to claim 27 where the water is intended for human consumption.

31. (New) The method according to claim 27 wherein at least a two log reduction of *Cryptosporidium* present in the water is effected by adsorption thereof onto said alumina.

32. (New) The method according to claim 27 wherein at least a three log reduction of *Cryptosporidium* present in the water is effected by adsorption thereof onto said alumina.

33. (New) The method according to claim 27 wherein at least a four log reduction of *Cryptosporidium* present in the water is effected by adsorption thereof onto said alumina.

34. (New) The method according to claim 27 wherein at least a five log reduction of *Cryptosporidium* present in the water is effected by adsorption thereof onto said alumina.

35. (New) The method according to claim 27 wherein at least a six log reduction of *Cryptosporidium* present in the water is effected by adsorption thereof onto said alumina.